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Will Please Lady
AND IMPROVE HER
Eyesight and Appearance.
N. LAZARUS
OPHTHALMIC OPTICIAN.
15, Queen's Road Central, Hongkong.

The China Mail.

ESTABLISHED 1846

January 12, 1921, Temperature 60

Barometer 30.08

Rainfall 0.60 inch

Humidity 81

January 12, 1920, Temperature 62

OVERLAND CHINA MAIL
(PUBLISHED EVERY
MAIL DAY.)
Contains the Week's News
of Hongkong and the
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per annum.

No. 18,156.

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HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12 1921.

日四初月二十年九國民華中

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A blend of the finest Whiskies distilled in
Scotland—mild and mellow.

OLD VAT No. 4.

A fine mellow Scotch Whisky.

GILBEY'S SPEY ROYAL

A fine old liqueur Scotch Whisky.

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A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,

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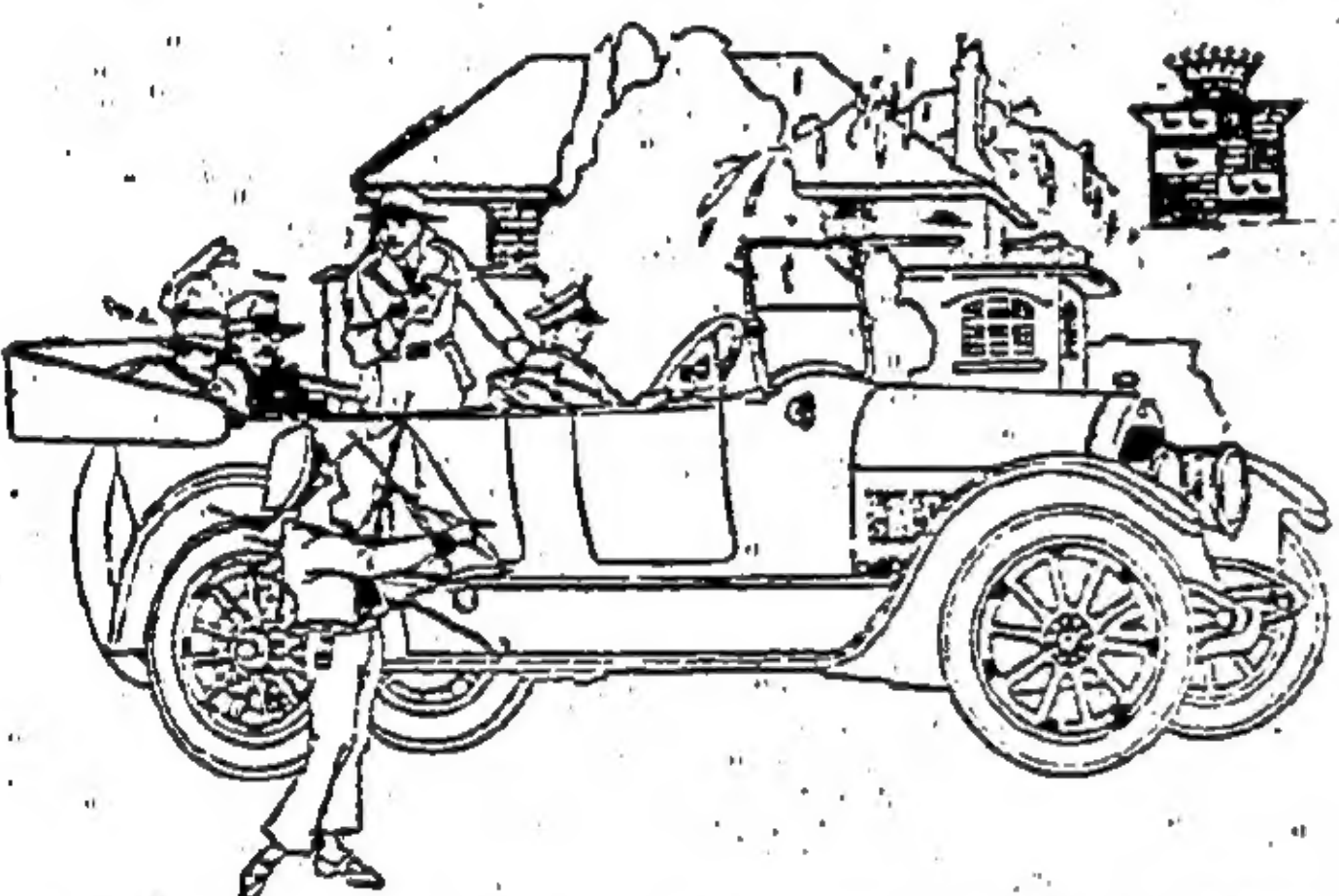
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CARS FOR HIRE
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CARS FOR HIRE 'PHONE 1036. EXILE GARAGE.



Agents for Cadillac, Buick and Oakland Cars,
Reading Standard Motor Cycles, Firestone-tyres.

Cars repaired & Garaged at reasonable rates.

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141, PRATA EAST, WANCHAI.

Operated by

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33 & 35, DES VOEUX ROAD

THE KWONG HIP LUNG CO., LTD.

ENGINEERS and SHIPBUILDERS, BOILER-MAKERS, BRASS and IRON
FOUNDERS. All work done in this establishment is guaranteed. We have
over thirty years' experience. We own two slipways and can accommodate any craft
of 200 feet long.

Town Office: 54, CORNFORD ROAD CENTRAL, Hongkong. Telephone No. 459.
Shipyard: Sham-Sui-Po, Kowloon, Hongkong. Telephone No. 8.
Estimates furnished on application.

Hongkong, April 1, 1914.

WHISKIES.

MacGregor's V.O.S. Johnnie Walker Red Label.
Extra Special Finest Liqueur. Johnnie Walker Black Label.

CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & CO., LTD.
15, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL. TEL 75.

When you want to buy

**DIAMONDS, WATCHES & JEWELLERY
SILVERWARE CUTGLASS, ETC.
POPULAR PRICES.**

Buy reputable goods from a reputable firm

J. ULLMANN & CO.

French firm, Est. 1860.

TO-DAY'S CABLES.

(Routin's Service to the China Mail)

PARTINGTON AGAIN.

CONFESSION SYSTEM DENOUNCED AS NEPARIOS.

IMPEDIMENT TO DEVELOPMENT.

LONDON, January 11.

In an article in the newspaper *Financier* T. B. Partington, of Hongkong, declares that the confession system is nefarious and should be destroyed, as it "makes for very inefficient management and prevents intimate relations between the Chinese and foreigners. It is an unnecessary superstructure on business organisation and has strengthened a class of men who are insufficiently educated to understand how to use their money to the advantage of themselves and their country. On the whole it is one of the greatest impediments to the development of China."

AMERICA'S ONLY CHOICE.

A POWERFUL NAVY OR GENERAL DISARMAMENT.

WASHINGTON, January 16.

The Secretary of the Navy, Mr. Daniels, addressing the naval committee of the House of Representatives, declared that an international agreement ending competition in naval building was the only alternative to the building of an American navy of equal power to any other navy in the world. If the United States was not immediately to join the League of Nations, President-elect Harding should immediately invite the nations of the world to a disarmament conference and until world agreement was secured there should be no cessation of building the ships authorised by Congress.

ALLEGED RUSSIAN NOBLE.

ARRESTED FOR ATTEMPTING TO SELL VALUABLE PENDANT.

NEW YORK, January 11.

A man giving the name of Anatole Camillechine and claiming to be a Russian noble was arrested at Brooklyn for attempting to sell a diamond and emerald pendant, stated to be worth \$50,000 and alleged to be the property of the Grand Duchess Olga. The man says that he came to America at the request of the Grand Duchess who was unable to obtain money in Greece. The accused was detained pending the payment of \$5,000 on a charge of failing to declare the jewels to the customs.

FATAL FIGHT WITH MAHSDS.

DELHI, January 11.

Two British officers were wounded among 45 casualties suffered by the 48th Pioneer in a close-quarter fight with Mahsuds in the Jandola area where there have been a number of raids on convoys and road parties. The Mahsuds lost heavily.

FIGHTING IN ASIA MINOR.

ROME, January 11.

A semi-official message from Constantinople states that the Greeks are preparing an offensive on the Brussa and Ushak front. General Papoules and staff have gone to Brussa. Fighting between the Greeks and Turks occurred in the Meander region. Many wounded have arrived at Smyrna. It is reported that Constantine is about to arrive in Asia Minor.

UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM.

LONDON, January 11.

The joint Trade Union Labour Conference rejected an invitation to act on the Government unemployment committee, although the Government amended the terms of reference. The Conference has decided to establish its own committee to prepare unemployment relief measures.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF FRENCH COLONIES.

PARIS, January 11.

The Cabinet has approved a Bill setting forth the programme of economic development of the French colonies.

D'ANNUNZIO AGAIN THE PORT.

ROME, January 11.

The Milan *Corriere del Lavoro* states that D'Annunzio takes up his residence in Venice and resumes his literary pursuits.

KRASSIN RETURNS TO RUSSIA.

LONDON, January 11.

Krassin has departed for Russia.

SWEDISH PARLIAMENT OPENS.

STOCKHOLM, January 11.

The King opened the Riksdag in state. In a speech from the Throne he emphasised the necessity of maintaining defensive forces. He urged hard work and economy, and promised grants to relieve distress owing to growing unemployment.

INDIAN RIOTS.

POLICE FIRE ON THREATENING CROWD.

ALLAHABAD, January 11.

It appears that a large crowd which attacked a bazaar near Raibareilly became so threatening that an officer ordered the police to fire. Four natives were killed and two wounded. Several arrests were made. Later the police were powerless to stop riots which spread to Saltanpur 58 miles northeast of Allahabad. Troops were summoned from Lucknow. Six hundred arrests were made.

THE DOLLAR.

To-day's closing rate 2/11 7/15

To-day's opening rate 2/11 3/16

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

(Routin's Service to the China Mail)

SHIPPING TRADE OUTLOOK.

WASHINGTON, January 11th.

The Shipping Board estimates that if the present unsatisfactory shipping conditions continue a number of merchantmen will be withdrawn from service and the number may reach 400 in the next few months. It is stated that 206 vessels of a total deadweight tonnage of twelve to two thousand have already been tied up.

LESSON IN THRIFT.

WASHINGTON, January 11th.

The Chairman of the Inauguration Committee has acquiesced to the request of Senator Harding that in the interests of national thrift all ceremonial attendance on his inauguration as President should be abandoned.

CABLES.

WASHINGTON, January 11th.

Mr. Mackay, President of the Postal and Telegraph Company, giving evidence before the Senate Committee on International Communications, argued that cables between Germany and the United States shall be returned to pre-war uses.

U.S. CENSUS BUREAU FIRE.

WASHINGTON, January 11th.

A fire in the basement of the premises of the Department of Commerce has destroyed valuable records, including all the census figures, dating back to 1790, except those of 1920.

The Chief Clerk of the Census Bureau states that it is impossible to replace the figures.

AMERICAN WOOLLEN CO.

LAWRENCE (MASSACHUSETTS), Jan. 11th.

The American Woollen Company announces a wage reduction of 22 per cent., owing to general business conditions.

FIGHTING IN ASIA MINOR.

LONDON, January 11th.

According to a communication, the Greek General Staff in Asia Minor confirms the statement of the opening of the Greek offensive against Turkish Nationalists, and reports the capture altogether of 900 prisoners and a quantity of war material in the course of attacks east of Smyrna, which ended in the enemy retreating in disorder. The station of Karakul, on the Bagdad Railway, was occupied.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN HOLLAND.

LONDON, January 11th.

The Times' Rotterdam correspondent says that there is a considerable increase in unemployment in Holland, especially in the tobacco and diamond industries. The Telegram states that workers in a well-known chocolate factory have received notices of discharge, which will come into operation on March 1st.

BRITISH MAGNETOS.

LONDON, January 11th.

The fact that British magnetos are unrivalled in the world is shown by the Air Ministry report on competitions held in September with a view to ascertaining the most efficient and most reliable types of aeroplanes. The Ministry pays a tribute to a number of exhibits with high engine power proportionately with the weight of the machine, thus providing a useful reserve power. Important advance was also shown by types permitting rising and landing within a confined space. The best specimens, the so-called amphibians, capable of alighting and rising on land and water, have high commercial potentialities. Although the rules did not bar foreign manufactured secondary equipment, such items were insignificant among the exhibits, while all the magnetos were British.

BOLSHEVISM IN PERSIA.

LONDON, January 11th.

The Times' Tehran correspondent says an Extraordinary Council of Persian aristocrats, ministers, and ex-ministers favours the acceptance of the Russian Soviet's proposed terms for a Russo-Persian Treaty, excepting clauses relating to Socialism in Persia and unlimited consular representation. It disapproves of opening official pourparlers until the Soviet troops have retired from North Persia.

AGRICULTURAL RIOTS IN INDIA.

ALLAHABAD, January 11th.

There has been bloodshed in the Rai Bareilly district in the United Provinces, where armed police were despatched. The trouble is believed to have originated in the attempts of landlords to suppress Soviets established by tenants, who allege that they were denied certainty of tenure and were forced to submit to illegal exactions.

CHAMBERLAIN'S TABLETS.

These Tablets are intended especially for disorders of the stomach, liver and bowels. If you are troubled with heartburn, indigestion or constipation they will do you good. For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

BUSINESS NOTICES

EVENING DRESS WEAR

— COMPRISING —
ALL THE NECESSARY ESSENTIALS.

DRESS TIES	FATENT PUMPS
" COLLARS	" OXFORDS
SILK SCARVES	DRESS SHIRTS
" HANDKERCHIEFS	" STUDS
" SOCKS	CUFF BUTTONS
DRESS VESTS	VEST
KID GLOVES	

— TAILORING DEPARTMENT —
ALL THE NEWEST MATERIALS
FOR DRESS WEAR.

J. T. SHAW
SPECIALIST IN MEN'S WEAR
Tel. 882.

WE ARE NOW CARRYING
STOCKS OF HIGH CLASS
DUTCH HAVANA CIGARS

THE PHARMACY

22, Queen's Road.

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QUEEN'S BUILDINGS, HONGKONG.

Telegrams, "Sparkless." Telephone 518

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Representative Throughout China for and affiliated with

THE GENERAL ELECTRIC CO., LTD., LONDON.

Whitton Engineering Works, Birmingham.

(Electrical Plant, Motors, Pumps, Switch Gears, etc.)

Owen & Co., Ltd., London.

(Copper Wire and Carbon Filament Lamps, Radiator Lamps.)

Fraser & Chalmers Engineering Works, Ltd., Irvine.

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(Motors for House Service, Power and Traction Purposes.)

Wardner Electrical Co., Ltd., Manchester.

(Electrical Instruments of All Descriptions.)

Post-Office Telephone Works, Ltd., Corkway.

(Complete Telephone Installations, Switch Boxes, Telephones.)

Cummins & Lenthall, Co., Ltd., Devonport.

(Adaptors for Cars and Aeroplanes.)

Electric Light Co., Ltd., London.

(Electric Passenger and Cargo Lamps.)

Frederick Fox and Carbon Works, Birmingham.

(Electric Fans, Small-power Motors, Carbon Brushes.)

Armstrong and Steel Construction Works, Birmingham.

(Lighting Fixtures, Steel Construction and Accessories.)

LARGE STOCKS CARRIED IN CHINA OF ALL ELECTRICAL MATERIALS

AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY.

Special exclusive Suitings for Races 1921—
including latest Glen Urquhart Plaids.

DISS BROS.,

Tailors.

Alexandra Buildings.

DONNELLY & WHYTE.

WINE MERCHANTS.

Tel. 686.

Tel. 686.

GEORGE BING MOTOR BOATS CO.

Hongkong Station at Kowloon Station at

Murray Pier Tel. 1904. Police Pier Tel. 171.

FAST & COMFORTABLE MOTOR BOATS.

FOR HIRE AT ALL HOURS.

\$2.00 per Hour or Part thereof or \$1.00 per Trip. Not exceeding 15 Minutes.



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MULTIPLE ENGINED BIPLANES

HANDLEY PAGE LTD.

Oriskanywood, London, N. W. 2.

Sole Agents for China:

PEKING SYNDICATE LTD.,

Peking

Sub-Agents for Hongkong and South China:

W. R. LOXLEY & CO.,

Hongkong

LAMMERT BROS.AUCTIONEERS, APPRAISERS
AND SURVEYORS.**Public Auctions.**

THE Undermentioned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, on

THURSDAY, January 13, 1921.
Commencing at 11 a.m.
at their Sales Rooms, Duddell Street.
(For Account of the Concerned)

4 cases Black Worsted Border Venetians
5 cases Lenses
Terms:—Cash on delivery.

LAMMERT BROS.,
Auctioneers.

FRIDAY, January 14, 1921.

commencing at 12 o'clock (noon),
at their Sales Rooms, Duddell Street.
One "On-land" Five Seater Motor
Car in good running order—just over-
hauled.
One Portable Motor Car Shed
Inpection orders may be obtained
from the undersigned.

Terms:—Cash on delivery.

LAMMERT BROS.,
Auctioneers.

FRIDAY, January 14, 1921.

commencing at 12 o'clock (noon),
at their Sales Rooms, Duddell Street.
One 4 Cylinder Motor Truck.
(Carrying capacity about one ton,
in good running order.)
On view on day of sale.

LAMMERT BROS.,
Auctioneers.

Hongkong, January 7, 1921.

FOR SALE**MILNER'S SAFES**

Apply to
LAMMERT BROS.,
Duddell Street.

INTIMATIONS

YOU CANNOT AFFORD TO
BE WITHOUT THEM.

JUST received a large Consignment
of (1) LACTOGEN the most digestive
food for Infants which keeps good in
quality during Hot weather (2) LAC-
TOSE (Milk Sugar) for sweetening the
foods of Infants and Druggists (3)
MILFORD-MORRIS FLUIDINSEK-
ICIDE the Best Fluid for destroying
Flies, Mosquitoes, Bugs, Flies and all
other Insect Pests in Summer days, and
(4) JOHN CAHILL'S GOLDEN
FLEECE MAGIC and CINDERELLA
SOAPS for keeping everything clean in
kitchens.

PRICES are Very Moderate. In-
spection and Enquiries are cordially
invited.

SHIU FUNG TAI & CO.,

Sole Agents for Hongkong and South China.
Nos. 47 & 49, Cross Street, Hongkong.
Telephone Nos. 1222.

理代泰豐榮

Just received

The

Fifteen Saturdays

of the

Rosary

in

English and Portuguese.

GRACA & CO.,

DEALERS IN PRAYER BOOKS, POSTAGE

STAMPS, TOYS, GARDEN SEEDS, ETC.

No. 10, Wyndham Street,

P.O. Box 620. Hongkong.

JAPANESE MAKERS.

Every kind of Footwear.

MADE

TO

ORDER



PEDDER STREET,

Opposite Hongkong Hotel

Telephone No. 49.

Hongkong, March 20, 1914.

MASSAGE HALL

Graduate from Nagasaki Massage School.

Mrs. HAN INOUECHI

Phone No. 224.

25 Stanley Street.

1st Floor.

THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY.

THERAPION No. 1

THERAPION No. 2

THERAPION No. 3

ALL THE WELSHES, CHINA, No. 2 for Blood &

2nd Floor, No. 3 for Chronic Venereal

AND ALL THE WELSHES, CHINA, No. 2 for Blood &

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**Selected
Virginia
Cigarettes**



ARE MADE FROM THE
MOST DELICATELY
FLAVOURED
TOBACCO
GROWN IN VIRGINIA.

Sold in Airtight tins of 50
Cigarettes and Obtainable
at all Tobacconists.

This Advertisement is issued by British-American Tobacco Co. (China) Ltd.

COMMUNIST PLOTS**AN UNDERGROUND PARTY.**

CHICAGO POLICE ACCOUNT OF
ANARCHIST WORK.

Chicago, November 30.—The first
"underground party" that the United
States has ever seen is now believed
to be operating, according to Edward
J. Brennan, division superintendent
of the bureau of investigation of the
Department of Justice here.

"It appears," he said, "that mem-
bers, or a great majority of them, of
the Communist parties have gone
over to a United Communist Party
that seems to be maintaining a
secretary never before attempted by an
American radical organization.

The Russian element which
formed the backbone of the original
Communist party appears to be in
control and to have the bulk of the
membership of the new secret or-
ganization.

REVOLUTIONARY LITERATURE.
"Literature is frequently distrib-
uted without any indication as to where
it comes from. In order to escape
detection, it appears that the party
members take unusual precautions.
The members are known among
themselves and literature is passed
around among them, sometimes by
messenger. When mailed, we know
that it is done in small quantities,
three or four letters or packages in
a box in one corner of a city and
three or four in a box in another
section.

"The party has its largest member-
ship in Chicago and New York. In
Chicago meetings have been made
extra difficult by the Illinois law
which forbids renting property to
an outlaw organization of this
character. Property owners who be-
come suspicious often call us to
make sure on this point.

"It is my individual conviction
that the United Communist Party, the
old Communist Party and kindred
associations of this nature are unlaw-
ful in that they advocate the over-
throw of the Government by force
and violence.

A BOLSHIEV PROGRAMME.

"The original Communist Party,
which was organized here a year
ago, took a stand against partici-
pating in elections. This it held to be
of no use, and it urged a Bolshiev
programme. I have no knowledge
myself of literature being recently
distributed urging against taking
part in the presidential election, as
was reported in press despatches
from the east at the time, but if this
was the case, it was in line with what
the party appears to stand for.

"It will be recalled that pamphlets,
literature and circular letters were
sent out broadcast to members of the
Communist party and that lectures
gave instructions at their meetings
that if at any time a member was

INDIANS IN FIJI.**ADVENT OF CHINESE.**

DISQUIETING SITUATION.

Calcutta, Dec. 1.—In an interview
with a representative of the Associ-
ated Press, Mr. C. F. Andrews
stated that the news from Fiji was
the most serious that had yet been
cabled. Half of the Indian popula-
tion were selling off all their property
and claiming to be repatriated. A
cablegram had been received from
Mr. N. B. Mitter who had done all he
could in the early part of the year to
prevent the Indians from striking.
It was apparent from this cablegram
that they could be restrained no
longer and were determined to leave
Fiji at all costs. The more prosperous
and free Indians are involved as well
as those who have just come out of
indenture. Indian property on the
North side of the main island is
worth at least £200,000. From
this figure it may be gathered
how seriously the Indians have
taken the situation. What is difficult
to understand is the attitude of the
Colonial Sugar Refining Company
with its many millions of invested
capital. Non-official members of the
Legislative Assembly, representing
interests, have just voted solidly for
the introduction of Chinese inden-
tured labour, but it is practically
certain that Australia and New Zea-
land will not allow this, Mr. Andrews
states that when he was in Fiji the
planters themselves were against
Chinese labour. Shortage of labour
must now be extreme and it would
appear certain that very soon the
Indian labourers' demand for higher
wages must be granted. Mr. Andrews
regards it as certain that the sugar
industry could easily afford these
wages out of the profits. He thinks
that the matter is so urgent that im-
mediate enquiry is needed from the
Indian Government. Mr. Mitter in a
recent letter has shown that the Fiji
Government itself cannot resist the
pressure of the sugar industrial
capitalists. He holds that the Fiji
Islands should be separated from the
Colonial Office and handed over to
the New Zealand Government for
administration. Mr. Andrews re-
gards it as very important that the
Indian people should have a voice in
the immediate problem as to what is
to be the future status of Fiji.

If 30,000 are to come back hurried-
ly, without preparation being made,
the suffering is likely to be acute.

Interviewed or attempted to be inter-
viewed by any person, particularly
by a federal or state officer, he was
to answer no questions and tell them
nothing, and in the event of a mem-
ber being arrested, he was to say
nothing, and that as soon as possible
he would be provided with a de-
fence.

CHOOSING HUSBANDS.**STUDY OF PARENTS.**

CHARACTER FROM EYEBROWS.

How will his eyebrows behave? Is
the question a girl should ask herself
when looking into her lover's adoring
eyes.

At 50 and after a man's eyebrows
are his diary for all who understand
to read; but at 20 they are not suffi-
ciently matured. So the girl should
study his father's and his mother's
brows, noting which way the wrinkles
and the hairs lean.

above theory of selection is
p. forward by Mr. Walter Kidd,
M.A., F.R.S.E., the well-known
writer on heredity, in his new book
"Initiative in Evolution" (Witheyby,
15s. net).

Eyebrows, explains Mr. Kidd, are
gradually drawn into certain forms by
muscles, of which there are three
sets, pulling different ways. These
muscles form wrinkles, and the
wrinkles direct the hairs. Long habits
of thought, train these muscles to
revert the thoughts that set them
working.

If, therefore, the maiden desires a
cheery, genial, hopeful companion in
life—

"Let her seek as many arched
wrinkles in the man's parents possi-
ble, and avoid very deep vertical
wrinkles. If she be herself of that
disposition she will want a mate of
different qualities and may venture
one whose balance of family wrinkles
inclines to the vertical. She can risk
that, and perhaps get a more capable
and strenuous comrade in life's battle.
But let her beware of him whose
wrinkles are all of the vertical kind;
for he will be thoughtful, moody, ab-
stracted, and not too good-natured."

"The celebrated Dr. Keate, the
foggish head of Eton, a fiery, strenu-
ous person, was noted for the extra-
ordinary long horn of thick hair in his
eyebrows, which he appeared to use
as a supplementary finger to point to
this or that object of his terrifying
attention. You may also see a man
with a great drooping curtain of hairs
overhanging his eyes. Another
will show at the outer end of the eye-
brows a bristling bush of hairs turned
upwards in the aggressive manner of
Wilhelm II., or of the late Mr.
Roosevelt."

STRAIGHT AT IT.

THERE is no use of our "beating
around the bush." We might as
well cut with it first as last. We want
you to try Chamberlain's Cough Remedy
the next time you have a cough or cold.
There is no reason so far as we can see
why you should not do so. This pre-
paration by its remarkable cures has
gained a world-wide reputation—and
people everywhere speak of it in the
highest terms of praise. It is for sale by
all Chemists and Storekeepers.

G. FALCONER & CO., LTD

WATCHMAKERS & JEWELLERS.

Hotel Mansions.

ADMIRALTY CHARTS,
ROSS'S BINOCULARS and TELESCOPES,
KELVIN'S NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS,
BENSON'S ENGLISH WATCHES,
ENGLISH SILVERWARE, direct from Manufacturers,
High Class English Jewellery.

THE WING ON CO., LTD.

UNIVERSAL PROVIDERS

Phone 196

Phone 198



JUST ARRIVED

LADIES' & GENTS'

GEO. E. KEITH

SMART FOOTWEAR

— IN —
BOOTS AND SHOES

COMFORTABLE WHEN NEW

STYLISH WHEN OLD

LONG HING & CO.,

PHOTO SUPPLIES,
DEVELOPING & PRINTING A SPECIALITY.

No. 174, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, HONGKONG.

HOTELS AND CAFES.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL CO., LTD.

OPERATING:—

THE HONGKONG HOTEL,

HOTEL MANSIONS,

THE REPULSE BAY HOTEL,

AND THE

HONGKONG HOTEL GARAGE.

J. H. TAGGART,

MANAGER.

THE PEAK HOTEL.

1,500 Feet above Sea Level.

15 Minutes from Landing Stage.

Under the Management of—

Mrs. BLAIR.

KING EDWARD HOTEL

CENTRAL LOCATION

ALL ELECTRIC TRAMWAYS Pass Entrance, Electric Lifts, Fans and Lighting

throughout. Best of Food and Service.

Telephone 375. Telegraphic Address:—"VICTORIA."

J. WITCHELL, Manager.

PALACE HOTEL

KOWLOON.

(Two minutes from Star Ferry).

Recently renovated and refurnished, electric light and fans throughout
and entirely under new management. Cuisine under the personal supervision
of the proprietor, Bar and Billiard Rooms. Terms moderate. Special terms to
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The China Mail.

"TRUTH, JUSTICE, PUBLIC SERVICE."

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 12, 1931.

LOCAL MATTERS.

Gossip informs us that our Governor knows "what's what," as the saying is, and that he has been setting his face against this excessive assumption of authority by certain officials. We trust it is true, for one or two had had their own way for so long that they had come to regard themselves as Little Tin Gods, resentful of criticism or opposition, self-willed, and, in small ways, inclined to nepotism. Too much authority, as we are never tired of saying, is bad for any man. It is our hope that we are about to experience a more reasonable state of things.

As regards the secrecy with which Government likes to work, we suppose we shall never wholly overcome that. But such of it as appears unwholesome we are determined to fight. For example, take the matter of the bathing beaches. We have been officially told that the North Beach has been promised to somebody, for a purpose described as "developing our harbour and commerce." All sorts of rumours reach us as to the destiny of this property, which has not yet been exposed for public view. If we knew just who is expected to get it, we might understand some of the voting in Council. That we should understand the voting of our non-official members is desirable.

Is that beach going to an alien firm? Rumour pretends to know, but we don't. The Government should know, but is silent. In view

of the public interest in the matter, we should have heard more.

The question has not even been mooted yet, though it should have been, whether it might not pay the Government to do its own reclaiming of these marine sites, and get the benefit of the enhanced prices it could then charge for them. Say it cost ten or fifteen cents per square foot, plus the cost of the sea wall. It should sell readily, if there be such a demand as to excavate the rape of the public bathing beaches, at a price to return a handsome profit on the outlay, whereas by granting these marine lots at low prices we gain nothing that we would not get in any case. In any case, with our rule about sales of land being open and fair, it is improper that we should be told by the Colonial Secretary, as if it were no concern of ours, that a site like that at Cheung Sha Wan is, practically sold and a price agreed upon. Opportunity for competition should always be given.

We ought to be told the proposed length of the lease of the North Point beach. Is it to be the usual 75 years, or is a 999 year lease to be sprung on us? We do not know, yet we have a moral right to know.

We walk, though perhaps our writings make you think otherwise, in these matters gingerly, as if on eggs. Scylla and Charybdis are nothing to the perils that beset us. On every hand we encounter interests. It amuses us to find, for instance, that a "public-spirited" man who comes to us to suggest that we advise the Government not to rush at this business of granting marine lots to develop the harbour business, has really most at heart the interest of the Wharf and Godown Company. It often has wharves to let; why make more? We have never anatomized a place where there are more "wheels within wheels" than in Hongkong, never laboured in a greater tangle of wires that also

pulled, or discovered a place where the interests are more intricately dovetailed. Sometimes we feel tempted to ask for the Greek's lantern, with which to search for the honest man. The necessity for all our Government concessions being put above suspicion, by the fullest possible daylight, surely needs no further demonstration.

There is talk of a new Montreal line of steamers, to run in conjunction with the British India, waiting what accommodation here. Have they been promised anything? We do not know. Japanese companies may be wanting wharf sites. The American ship-ping will probably want some. Are they all to have what they ask for, without public competition, granted by departmental complaisance, and we to learn of it when it is all over?

Perhaps, as regards the suggestion that the Government could gain much money by doing its own reclamation at such saleable points as Lai-chikok, Changshawan, and North Point, we may be told that the P.W.D. has already too much to do. We have heard that before. But if we get a good head for that department, who will re-organize it, and not restrict contracts to a small ring of apparently privileged contractors, that difficulty soon disappears. The brains of the whole P.W.D. staff might be drawn upon, instead of being sealed up and made subordinate to the whims of one man. Contractors should be made to provide qualified overseers, much of the time of P.W.D. officers, spent in watching details, would be saved for other work. Of course there must be P.W.D. inspection, but if registered Civil Engineers were compulsorily employed by the contractors, much unnecessary watching would be avoided. At present some P.W.D. men might just as well be contractors' assistants, for all the public can tell.

A great deal of good P.W.D. work has been done on roads, which are an excellent asset, when wisely planned and mapped. But it would be impudent to deny that the planning has been done with an eye on the desires of our comparatively small motoring class. What has the Government done to get a quid pro quo, and at the same time help the nation's trade? It has not imposed, as it might have done, a big tax on all foreign made cars imported, and a small one on the Home product. It has encouraged for years, without getting anything proportionate out of them.

Characteristic of the general attitude we are disapproving is the strange secrecy in which the report of the Committee on our Colonial Resources is kept. It may have obtained much confidential information. It may have disclosed resources profitable to exploit. It must be known to a few. How do we know that some of these few, or of the friends of these few, have not had the advantage of an early start? That is the sort of suspicion which inevitably arises under a policy of hush. We do not allege cause for it. We do not seriously suggest it (although past history is less clean than it should be) but there you are. Let us ask the question—since the Commission was formed, have any concessions been granted in the New Territory? Or any part of the Colony? If so, to whom? We understand that the iron ore rights of the Colony were practically given away decades ago, and we know how little real development followed. There should be coal within our boundaries. Has anyone been promised that? Or is it still open to competition?

After such big matters it is anticlimax, perhaps, to speak of the slackness which allows public property to be used for private pleasure. We are thinking of a matter to which our attention has often been called, namely, the numerous times on which the Government yacht "Stanley" is used for shooting trips, and the continual "joy riding" in service cars. That is not right. In the event of damage, the loss would be public. It is one of the local scandals of which the people often talk, so we mention it.

With regard to the abortive Home-building Loan scheme, it is hardly worth while arguing any more. It never had a fair show, and if we should say that perhaps it was never meant to, we would not be too unreasonable, in view of the way it was managed. The conditions offered to intending builders and developers of land are a by-word, the conditions imposed in the case of the Old Postoffice site being typical of many more. For the Government, in excuse for taking the public bathing beaches, to talk of the need for development, was almost humorous.

Before there can be any real approach between Government and people, with mutual understanding and fair criticism, these shadows must be chased away. We had a Daylight Saving scheme once. It seems to have saved too much. We want more daylight upon our public departments. Up with the blinds. Let in the light. Establish public confidence. Why not, if all is fair and square, let it be also above-board?

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

A message from Harbin states that the Balkal railway line is in a state of collapse.

There is said to be a bad outbreak of cattle plague in North Manchuria, and the ill success of the measures taken to cope with it is causing anxiety.

The following approaching weddings are announced—Mr. G. Tiran, engineer, to Miss J. A. M. Merlette; Mr. Owen Chan, of Messrs. Snowman & Co., to Miss Ng To-wa.

Lady Stubbs has kindly consented to distribute the prizes at the annual prize giving of the Diocesan Boys' School on Friday, January 23, at 5.30 p.m.

The following story was told on the Manchester Royal exchange just lately—A China merchant received a cable "cancel all orders immediately," to which he promptly replied "cannot cancel immediately; you must wait your turn."

Mr. Edulji, for over 30 years on the business staff of the Hongkong Daily Press, is here on a holiday from Shanghai, where he is now a broker. He is a most worthy member of the Parsee community, and we were glad to see him looking so well.

According to a Minchi News Agency report, Mrs. Hah Chung Man, wife of the new managing Director of the Canton Samshui Railroad, has signified her intention of asking her husband to employ women as ticket sellers in the different stations.

That "Pussyfoot" has met with a severe reverse in Scotland is clear from figures supplied by Messrs. Gaude, Price and Co., showing an overwhelming majority for no change on the temperance vote as follows:—No change, 347; no licence, 23; and limitation 27.

The engagement is announced, says the Peking Daily News of Mr. R. Dunbar, Third Secretary of the British Legation, and son of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Dunbar of Sheffield, to Miss E. C. Sowerby, youngest daughter of the Rev. Arthur and Mrs. Sowerby of Peking.

Among the spectators this morning at the pony training on the race course was the Bishop of Hongkong. This honour greatly pleased him, and he was very sporting, which we may inform his Lordship, is high praise.

Among the steamers arriving here yesterday was the large vessel "Anchises" of the Blue Funnel which has come up as a passenger boat detached from the Australia trade. It is quite likely that she will compete in the passenger traffic between London and the Far East.

A committee of inhabitants of Kiangchow, the island of Hainan, now residing at Canton, will assist the Government in denying the rumour started by Peking agents that Dr. Sun Yat-sen and other Constitutional leaders are trying to sell the island to the Japanese for \$50,000,000.

We had a visit to-day from the boy who wanted to buy a rabbit, and whose disappointment we contrived to moralize upon. He has got the Hongkong idea of the Press to a dot. He demanded to know "by what right we put it in the paper." There was nothing for it but an apology, so here it is.

Mr. H. Foster Bain, who was recently in Shanghai, has just been appointed director of the Bureau of Mines of the United States to replace Frederick Cottrell, who has resigned. Mr. Bain has for the past four years been making mining investigations in China for the New York Orient Mining Company. He formerly edited the Mining Scientific Press of San Francisco.

Shanghai householders have been warned against a foreigner who has been obtaining entrance to various domiciles on the pretext of examining electrical metres. Coincident with this unauthorised gentleman's visits various losses have been reported to the police who are on the outlook in order to put a stop to the depredations.

After five years' hard fight in the courts for the recovery of a mummy discovered along the banks of the Abra river many years ago by a Protestant preacher, Attorney Jimenez of Manila has finally secured it for the discoverer. The mummy will be exhibited at the coming Carnival.

The two hundred or more members of Parliament now in Canton are at present very busy preparing bills for introduction at the coming extraordinary session of the National Assembly. There seems to be a desire on the part of many to reorganize the military Government so that there will be a president to preside over the government instead of the Administrative Council.

SPECIAL CABLES.

AVIATION IN CHINA.

AERODROME FOR SHANGHAI.

A SHANGHAI-CANTON ROUTE.

[China Mail Special.]

SHANGHAI, Jan. 11.

The arrangements have practically been completed for the establishment of an aerodrome at Shanghai in connection with the air mail and passenger service between Shanghai and Peking. The inauguration in the summer of a Shanghai-Canton route is also contemplated. Colonel Holt and Tcheng Hung of the Peking Aeronautical Department are due at Shanghai on Wednesday for the purpose of completing preparations.

NEWSPAPER BOMBED.

OMINOUS SIGN.

FURTHER OUTRAGES FEARED.

[China Mail Special.]

SHANGHAI, Jan. 11.

Following the recent attempted murder of an ex-political leader in Wei-hai-wei road, Sunday's bombing of the "Shen Wen Pao" newspaper is feared to be the sign of a recurrence of the crop of assassinations marking the revolutionary days.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL ELECTION.

UNUSUAL INTEREST.

IMPROVEMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES.

[China Mail Special.]

SHANGHAI, Jan. 11.

Public interest is centred in the French municipal election on Wednesday. The contest will be of unusual interest. The main issues hinge on the struggle between the Council and the Tramway Company relative to the improvement of public utilities.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT.

ARRIVAL AT MADRAS.

H.M.S. "MALAYA" LEAVES FOR STRAITS.

[China Mail Special.]

SINGAPORE, Jan. 11.

The Duke of Connaught arrived at Madras yesterday. H.M.S. "Malaya" left for Malaya to-day and is due on Monday.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Subject to audit the Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ltd., will pay a final dividend of \$4.50 per share and bonus of \$6.00 per share.

The Blue Funnel steamer "Anchises," offering excellent cabin accommodation for saloon passengers, sails for Shanghai on January 14. Messrs. Butterfield and Swire are the agents.

Revenue Officers yesterday arrested the master of a passenger sampan in which they seized 946 taels of prepared non-Government opium. Formally charged this morning, the man was remanded by Magistrate Orme until to-morrow.

While a folk of a Chinese shop in Bird Street was negotiating a gangway leading to the "Shek Kip" passenger boat, lying alongside the Praya, he missed his footing and fell into the water, sinking immediately. All attempts to recover the body failed, and it is thought that he was rendered unconscious by striking his head on the side of the vessel.

A Singapore-born Chinese, employed in the Dockyard as a copy clerk, yesterday absconded with \$1,800 the property of the H. M. S. "Ambrose" Canton. The police who arrested the youth the same evening found in his possession \$1,200 of the stolen money. This morning the clerk was brought to the Magistracy on a charge of embezzlement and remanded.

As cases of burglary have frequently happened in the houses of foreigners residing at Lienhuashih, outside Hai-pien-men, Peking, General Wang Hui-ching, Commander-in-Chief of the Peking Gendarmerie, has increased the number of soldiers on patrol duty in that vicinity and has also instructed the soldiers on duty to exercise more vigilance in looking after the property of the residents in that quarter. The engagement of soldiers to suppress robbery in China is not so foolish as would at first appear. There should soon be nothing for the burglars to "burgle," remarks a Shanghai paper.

CORRESPONDENCE.

IMPROVED FERRY SERVICE TO YAU MATI.

[To the Editor of the "China Mail."]

Dear Sir,—During the past year, the Govt. arranged a monopoly with a Chinese Co. for the above Service, at a favourable addition to the revenue, and, one that should leave handsome returns to the monopolists, from the crowds that patronise the Service daily.

This public ferry is a great advance on the old, uncertain one, for all of which much credit is due to both parties—Government and Co.—but, there are certain minor defects as follows, which the Government ought to look into, and have remedied, as it has a duty to the public to perform, besides taking the money from the Co.—

1.—Overcrowding at certain hours.
2.—The usual Chinese rush to the side of the launches when nearing a wharf, and presenting to view, more of the copper on the bottom of the launches than is comfortable at times.
3.—Natives spitting all over the launches.

4.—Natives placing fowls, etc. on the seats, with the usual mess occurring.

5.—The incoming passengers being permitted to crowd, and rush down the stairway of the wharf, and on to the launches, while those passengers on the launches are trying to get ashore, etc.

6.—People, and cargo such as beef, bones, carcasses of ducks, liver and lights, etc. all being mixed up on the wharf (a Chinese, or foreign lady having a nice coat, or skirt, perhaps spoiled by a dash of bloody beef is not O.K.)

7.—Chinese folks of the coxswains, who are responsible for the steering of their launches, and the safety of the lives on board being allowed to go into the steering house, while the launches underweigh, and, on occasions, crack huge jokes with them; from the laughter greeting the remarks, diverting his attention from his duties, and may lead to accident, when, I have no doubt, he would swear blind that he was attending to the wheel, and the other vessel, when he was doing nothing of the kind.

This is a public service run by a Chinese Co., as far as one knows, who charge the same 1st class-fare, 10 cents, as the Star Ferry Co., a foreign-managed concern, and, whose earnings, this new venture must be affecting. I have no interest in the Star Ferry Co. (whatever), there is no comparison between the services for arrangements for the public on board, and on the wharf, and for cleanliness, therefore, it behoves the Govt., while securing such an excellent service to Kowloon per Star Ferry boats, not to permit this Yau mati Co. to run this one as it pleases, and as if there were no authority overlooking its actions and those of its servants. Both the Govt. and the Co. can afford to see that the service is improved. It is a much better policy to do something now, than to wait until accidents and loss of life perhaps, do occur.—Yours, etc.

"TRAVELLER."

Hongkong, Jan. 5, 1931.

IMPERFECT SANITARY METHODS.

[To the Editor of the "China Mail."]

Dear Sir,—Could you not speed up the Sanitary Department, or are its members hindered in their endeavour by the Government? Perhaps the latter will not grant the money for motor dust carts, having spent too much on alterations to old and new roads for motor-cars. It is a common sight to see between 10 and 11 a.m., the slow, cumbersome sanitary carts, being loaded near the junction of D'Agular and Stanley Streets, and the filthy materials turned and raked over by the sanitary coolies, making the disease, spreading dust on a windy day, fly all round into the eyes, etc. of those residents of both sexes, who have to use this busy part of the city at this hour. It is time such out-of-date methods were done away with and all sanitary debris removed by motor-carts at an earlier hour in the morning, as the present ways are unsanitary, and may breed disease instead of preventing it.

Yours truly,

"PASSENGER."

Hongkong, January 5, 1931.

The Seoul Press is fain to admit that Marquis Okuma is a great fighter and talks of war with America in a manner which is reprehensible, but it assures its readers that nobody takes much notice of what Marquis Okuma says. It would be pleasant to be able to endorse such a statement. Incidentally it would be more flattering to the Japanese public. But they are not the only public in the world that supplies a large following to a leader given to blatant and aggressive methods. Unfortunately Marquis Okuma still has a great deal of influence in the country, and could at any time stampede the country as he did before his last return to power, remarks the Japan Chronicle.

The ss. "Tanda" of the B.S.N. Co., is reported by the *Manichi* to have brought ¥600,000 worth of gold ingots from Hongkong and ¥23,000 worth from Shanghai, arriving at Kobe on December 18. After due inspection the gold was transported from Samonoyama to the Osaka Branch of the Specie Bank. It is not stated what the gold was for, but it was probably for repayment of British bonds.

MISSING MOTOR CAR.

CHARGE OF THEFT.

GODOWN WATCHMAN DISCHARGED.

The case in which a Chinese youth was charged with the theft of a seven-seater motor car from a godown at No. 20, Irving Street, Wanchai, was again mentioned before Magistrate Orme at the Magistracy yesterday afternoon.

The car, which was valued at \$1,000, was taken by a Chinese merchant in settlement of a bill of sale, and stored in the godown at Wanchai. Before the new owner had seen it, the car was removed from the godown.

Consequently he was not in a position to identify it. A car alleged to be the missing vehicle, was discovered in Canton, and the accused, who was the watchman of the godown, went up with Sergeant Kelly and identified the car as similar to the missing one. At the last hearing of the case however, it was shown that the engine number of the Canton car was not the same as that quoted in the bill of sale. Consequently, the Canton car could not be the missing one. An adjournment was granted in order that the possibility of the engine number having been altered, as suggested by Inspector Kent, might be investigated.

Yesterday the Inspector reported that an expert who had worked in the factory where the car was made was prepared to state that the car number had not been altered. The police were therefore unable to go on with the case.

The defendant, who was represented by Mr. E. J. Grist, was discharged. Mr. G. G. N. Tinson (for the purchaser of the car at Canton) asked that his client might be given possession of the car.

The Magistrate gave order accordingly and returned the receipt for the purchase money which had been handed in during the hearing of the case.

LOCAL WEDDING.

LINDSEY-WILLIAMS.

PRETTY CEREMONY AT WANCHAI.

A very pretty wedding took place at the Wesleyan Church, Wanchai, on Monday, when Miss Madeline May Williams, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Williams, Kennedy Road, was married to Mr. Alexander Maxwell Lindsey, of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. Ltd., second son of Mr. and Mrs. M. Lindsey of "West View," Ranikhet, India. Many friends attended the ceremony, which was performed by the Rev. Clouston Porri, assisted by the Rev. Scholes, M.A.

The bride was given away by her father. She was charmingly gowned in cream tulle with pearl trimmings, with a Brussels net veil, and a train trimmed with orange blossoms and white feather that had been sent from Inverloch, Scotland. She carried a beautiful bouquet of white roses and chrysanthemums and maidenhair fern.


The bridesmaids were Miss Nellie Williams, sister of the bride, and Miss Ruby Young. They wore white silk lace over champagne satin crepe, and Dutch lace to match, with rosette trimmings. Miss May, the maid of honour, was dressed in fawn silk with hat to match. Bridesmaids and maid of honour carried bouquets of white and bronze chrysanthemums. Miss Gracie Winfield and Master Gussy Young were winsome little train bearers, attired in white satin and old lace, and bearing between them a large hoop basket of white chrysanthemums. The bride's mother was dressed in fawn crepe de chine, with hat to match, and carried a handsome bouquet of bronze chrysanthemums. The best man was Mr. J. Beal, wardmaster at the Naval Hospital.

A reception was held at the home of the bride's parents in Kennedy Road after the ceremony, and largely attended. The usual toasts were honoured appropriately, and many hearty congratulations extended to the happy couple.

The honeymoon is being spent at Macao. The bride's travelling dress was a grey velvet coat frock, grey hat and cape. Mr. and Mrs. Lindsey will leave later for England by way of India.

Many handsome presents were received by the bride and bridegroom. The bride's gift to the bridegroom was a gold ring, and to the maid of honour a necklace of pearls. The bridegroom gave the bride a diamond and platinum pendant, and presented the bridesmaids with platinum brooches and the train bearers with a gold scarfpin and gold brooch.

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COMPANY MEETING.

KUNG YIK COTTON S. & W. CO.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The eleventh annual general meeting of the shareholders of this Company was held at the offices of the General Managers, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd., at No. 3A, Peking Road, Shanghai.

Mr. A. Brooke Smith presided, and among those present were Messrs. F. Ayscough, C. Gordon Mackie, Chai Lai-fong and Pan Ching-poo (Consulting Committee), and Mr. C. W. Beswick (Secretary).

The Secretary, having read the notice convening the meeting, and the auditors' report, the Chairman said—

The report and statement of accounts having been in your hands for the past ten days, I will, with your permission, take them as read.

The net profit for our past year amounted to Tls. 940,516.80, which of course greatly exceeds any previous record and is most gratifying, considering the varying and often difficult conditions encountered.

The year 1920 will long be remembered as one of the most remarkable in the history of trade, as it witnessed the zenith of the after-war boom, and also the reaction, with its decline in the values of all commercial commodities. For the first few months there was a brisk demand for our mill products at high prices, and we were able to manufacture very profitably owing to comparatively cheap cotton. Unfortunately, local values were unduly swollen by the pernicious system of gambling that takes place between certain Chinese and Japanese operators, many of whom are not legitimately interested in goods from an actual trading point of view.

The Japanese financial crisis in the spring brought about the first set-back to this market, and since then the trend of prices has been continually downward. In local cotton yarn, for instance, there was a decline of about 50 per cent. between March and October. Demand, however, has been consistently steady, and, as we have been able to keep our yarn order book well filled, we have come through without any losses in this branch of our business.

The very serious crisis through which the piece goods trade in China is now passing has, of course, had its influence on our cloth business, and the handsome profits we were making in the earlier part of the year have been somewhat discounted by the losses we have since sustained owing to a few defaulting dealers. We have, however, dealt drastically with stocks of cloth in our accounts, and we trust we have provided for the worst.

COTTON PLentiful.
Cotton throughout our past year has been plentiful and reasonably cheap, considering the high prices of mill products. The China crop was considerably smaller than usual, owing to unfavourable weather conditions, but with high exchange rates ruling in Japan, being overstocked with Indian and American grades, there was little export from China, and local mills were readily able to obtain their supplies of fair quality. Useful grades of Indians were also available at cheap rates, but good varieties of American were comparatively dear, owing to the general poor quality of their last crop. During the past few months, all cotton prices have declined very heavily, and we may consider ourselves fortunate in having worked off our purchases. The small stock of yarn taken over, as usual, at cost, is reasonably near present values, and is more than protected by our cotton fluctuation fund.

The proposed final dividend of Tls. 6, with the interim dividend of Tls. 2, makes a total of Tls. 8 per share and represents about two-thirds of the past year's net profits. For the ten years of this Company's existence, the dividends will amount to Tls. 24.40 per Tls. 10 share, which is equivalent to an average annual return of 24.4 per cent., and if the further allocations recommended by the Consulting Committee receive your sanction, the various reserve funds of the Company will total Tls. 610,943.01, which, on a capital of Tls. 750,000, should be considered highly satisfactory.

With regard to the proposals to write off Tls. 60,000 and Tls. 40,000 from plant and machinery and buildings respectively, I would remind you that this concern was inaugurated in 1907 under Chinese auspices. Unfortunately the construction of the buildings and the equipment of the mill were not undertaken with that view to durability and thoroughness that we ourselves should have given to such important items. Since we

took over the management of the Company in 1910, we have attended to the general up-keep and improvement of the property and also written down the book values freely. The ravages of the climate and the constant strain of day and night work during the past few years have, however, revealed that, whatever repairs may be made to the mill buildings, they may always be inadequate, and eventually we may be forced to rebuild and scrap the inefficient buildings and portions of the plant. It is, therefore, imperative that we should take advantage of exceptionally good years to write down the book values of these assets liberally and be prepared for the time when they must be replaced. If you sanction the above proposals the plant and machinery will stand in the books at Tls. 171,107.29, and the buildings at Tls. 47,821.81 and if our present policy of depreciating is maintained these items will be written down in a very few years, to nominal figures.

THE ACCOUNTS.
The addition of Tls. 75,000 to equalization of dividend fund will bring the total to Tls. 375,000, which is half the capital of the Company. With the allocation of Tls. 30,000, the cotton fluctuation fund will amount to Tls. 100,000, which will prove a useful safeguard in the event of adverse conditions. By adding Tls. 25,000 to special repairs and renewals fund we shall have available Tls. 75,943.01 for keeping the mill as efficient as possible.

The creation of a reserve fund, by setting aside Tls. 60,000 will give us an additional reserve that will be available for any purpose. The amount written off furniture, viz., Tls. 400, calls for no comment, and the Tls. 1,500 written off our Tls. 50,000 worth of Municipal Debentures, 1919, for which we paid 95 per cent., reduces our holding to the present market value of 92 per cent.

The bonus of Tls. 22,500 to the staff at the mill has been well earned, and I am sure will be appreciated. Our contingency against the increasing number of employees who qualify for the Chinese superannuation fund, inaugurated last year, will be covered by the provision of Tls. 15,000.

The proposed donation of Tls. 7,500 to war charities will be sent to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs for disposal, probably to the King's Fund for Disabled Soldiers and Sailors. During the past year, the matter of insurance against loss of profit resulting from fire has been satisfactorily arranged on the basis of the average profit for the previous three years. The past year or two have been difficult for all employers of native labour, but we have anticipated any serious troubles by substantial advances in wages to meet the higher cost of living.

Since our last annual meeting, we have acquired a small additional piece of land along one side of our property, which enables us to undertake certain alterations and minor extensions that will prove of great convenience. As regards future prospects, I am afraid that the financial stringency and general want of confidence must exert a depressing influence for some time, but so far as we can ascertain the statistical position of yarn and cloth throughout China is sound, and we trust we shall shortly experience better trading conditions.

Before putting the resolutions to the meeting, I shall be pleased to answer any questions. There were none, and the following resolutions were then put to the meeting:—
That the report be adopted, together with the accounts and allocation of profits.—Proposed by the Chairman, and seconded by Mr. F. Ayscough.

That Mr. A. Brooke Smith, Mr. F. Ayscough, Mr. C. Gordon Mackie, Mr. Chai Lai-fong, and Mr. Pan Ching-poo be re-elected the Consulting Committee of the Company.—Proposed by Mr. F. J. Barrett, seconded by Mr. H. J. Clark.

That the auditors, Messrs. Lowe, Bingham & Matthews, be re-elected with a remuneration of Tls. 1,000 per annum.—Proposed by Mr. Ling-shu, seconded by Mr. Pan Tse-chuen.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Mr. Barrett proposed a vote of thanks to the directors for presenting such a satisfactory balance sheet, which resolution was carried.

The Chairman, in reply, said he hoped the Committee would be able to present a satisfactory report this time next year. There was no reason why an equally good return should not be forthcoming.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

THE HONGKONG BANK.

PROBABLE DIVIDEND.

PROPOSED INCREASE OF CAPITAL.

The Directors of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation announce that, subject to audit, the dividend for the half year ending 31st December, 1920 will probably be £3 per share.

Bonus in addition to Dividend £2 per share.
Add to Silver Reserve
Fund—£2,030,000
Write off Bank Premises 1,000,000
And carry forward to next year about 3,300,000

The Directors further announce that they have resolved to approach the Hongkong Government to amend the Bank Ordinance in order to provide for an increase of Capital, and will recommend at an Extraordinary General Meeting of Shareholders, to be called later, the creation of 40,000 new Shares of £125 each to be issued to Shareholders at the Price of £70 each in the proportion of one new share to three old shares.

RUNNING MAN SHOT.

SUSPICIOUS BEHAVIOUR.

SERGEANT'S CHALLENGE IGNORED.

While on duty in Wanchai 1st night, Lance Sergeant O'Connor, of No. 2 Police Station, challenged a Chinese whom he noticed acting in a very suspicious manner, in a narrow and dark lane off the Praya. Instead of surrendering, the suspect straightway made off, and notwithstanding repeated threats to shoot refused to stop running. Sergeant O'Connor thereupon fired after the running man with the intention of frightening him. The bullet struck the back of the neck and the man collapsed. He was removed to the station and thence by ambulance to the Government Civil Hospital, where he is receiving medical attention. While his condition is at present considered serious, hopes are entertained of his recovery.

SPORT.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE.

YESTERDAY'S MEETING.

At the Victoria Barracks yesterday evening, a meeting of the Hongkong Football League was held. Mr. R. J. Wilson, in the Chair, was supported by Master Gunner May (Vice-Chairman) and Mr. J. Ralston (Hon. Secretary). There was a good attendance present.

FOR LOCAL CHARITIES.

The balance in aid of local charities was reported as \$306, and it was decided to allocate this amount as follows:—\$100 to Hongkong Benevolent Society; \$100 to the Victoria Home and Orphanage; and \$106 to the Seamen's Institute.

TRANSFER OF PLAYERS.

Approval was given for the following players to transfer:—Cordeiro from St. Joseph's College to Club de Recreio, and Moskaitis from United to Kowloon. Goldenberg and Day, of the Club, were transferred to the second division.

An application from the Oilers for the transfer of Downs and Savage of the "Ambrose" team to the Oilers United was ruled out of order as the rules for transfer were not complied with.

An application from the "Titania" to take over the "Carlisle" League fixtures was approved, the Hon. Secretary reading a letter saying that the "Carlisle" new crew were not desirous of fulfilling their fixtures in the League.

An application from Kowloon to play Adams and Donnan of the Naval Depot, Kowloon, received the approval of the meeting.

LEAGUE MEDALS.

The Hon. Secretary read a letter from Messrs. Gamages, Ltd., stating that League medals were being prepared and they expected to despatch them early.

PLAYERS SUSPENDED.

The report of Mr. Hollands, the referee appointed to the R.G.A. reserves v. Oilers match on Saturday last, was read. He stated that he had occasion to order Magoo of the R.G.A. and Jones, of the Oilers, off the field for fighting. The meeting decided that Magoo should be suspended from League football for a period of three weeks and Jones for one week. The meeting thanked Mr. Hollands for the action he took in the matter.

NEW REFEREES.

Previous to the League meeting the Referees' Board of the H.K.F.A. met to examine candidates for the appointment of referees. The following passed the Oral test: C.S. Masters, C. M. Leaf and S. S. Andrews, all of H.M.S. "Titania." Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Ralston, Hon. Sec., H.K.F.A., and Master Gunner May, Hon. Secretary, Referees' Board, were appointed examiners.

WARSHIPS AS CARO VESSELS.

INTERESTING TRANSFORMATIONS.

LIGHT CRUISER A MOTOR VESSEL.

A number of war craft have been converted to various uses since the conclusion of the war, but probably the most interesting transformation is that of a light cruiser into a motor vessel of the most modern type. This ship, which was originally a fast light cruiser of about 3,500 tons deadweight, has had the steam machinery taken out and in its place two submarine Diesel engines were installed, of sufficient power to give the vessel a speed of 12 knots. It is stated in the December issue of *The Motor Ship* in which a fully illustrated description of this conversion is given, that the total cost was only about £12 per ton deadweight.

In the same issue is given the first illustrated description yet published of the remarkable 3,000 h.p. oil engine which has been standardized by Messrs. W. Duxford and Sons, Southampton, for installation in cargo vessels. It is claimed that this is the highest powered commercial marine oil engine that has yet been constructed.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE WEST POINT BUILDING CO., LTD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the THIRTY-THIRD ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in this Company will be held at the Offices of Messrs. JAMES, MATTHEWS & CO., Ltd., on FRIDAY, 26th January, 1921, at 11.30 a.m., for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with the Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1920.

The REGISTER OF SHARES of the Company will be CLOSED from WEDNESDAY, 19th January to FRIDAY, 26th January both days inclusive during which period no transfer of shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
MOWBRAY S. NORTHCOTE,
Secretary
Hongkong, January 12, 1921.

THE HONGKONG CENTRAL ESTATE, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the SEVENTH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in this Company will be held at the Offices of Messrs. JAMES, MATTHEWS & CO., Ltd., on FRIDAY, 26th January, 1921, at 11.40 a.m., for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with the Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1920.

The REGISTER OF SHARES of the Company will be CLOSED from WEDNESDAY, January 19th to FRIDAY, January 26th both days inclusive during which period no transfer of shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
MOWBRAY S. NORTHCOTE,
Secretary
Hongkong, January 12, 1921.

THE HONGKONG LAND RECLAMATION CO., LTD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the TWENTY-FIFTH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in this Company will be held at the Offices of Messrs. JAMES, MATTHEWS & CO., Ltd., on FRIDAY, January 26th, 1921, at 11.50 a.m., for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with the Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1920.

The REGISTER OF SHARES of the Company will be CLOSED from WEDNESDAY, January 19th to FRIDAY, January 26th both days inclusive during which period no transfer of shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
MOWBRAY S. NORTHCOTE,
Secretary
Hongkong, January 12, 1921.

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the THIRTY-THIRD ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in this Company will be held at the Offices of Messrs. JAMES, MATTHEWS & CO., Ltd., on FRIDAY, January 26th, 1921, at 12 o'clock noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with the Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1920.

The REGISTER OF SHARES of the Company will be CLOSED from WEDNESDAY, 19th January to FRIDAY, 26th January both days inclusive during which period no transfer of shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
MOWBRAY S. NORTHCOTE,
Secretary
Hongkong, January 12, 1921.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

TO LET.

WITH immediate possession EX-CELLENT FURNISHED FLAT three rooms, Queen's Road Central. Apply—PETER SMITH, SMITH & FLEMING, 5, Queen's Road Central.

FOR SALE.

ONE HORNSBY-ACROFT OIL ENGINE—34 Horse Power, Fuel, Kerosene. Complete with cooling apparatus in good condition. May be viewed by appointment at Gun Club Hill Barracks, Kowloon. Apply to the undersigned.

LAMBERT BROS.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE Steamship
"PILSNA"
From TRIESTE, VENICE, PENANG and SINGAPORE.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Ltd., at Kowloon, whence and for from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before 11th inst.

No claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 17th inst. will be subject to rest.

All claims against the steamer must be presented to the Underwriter on or before the 27th inst., or they will not be recognized.

All broken, chafed and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns where they will be examined on the 17th inst. at 10 a.m.

No Fire Insurance has been effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

DODWELL & Co., Ltd.

Agents, Hongkong, January 12, 1921.

PUBLIC AUCTIONS.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, for account of the undersigned, on

TUESDAY,

January 12, 1921, commencing at 2.30 p.m., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Voeux Road, Corner of Lee House Street,

TEAKWOOD AND BLACKWOOD FURNITURE, BRASS AND TEAKWOOD TRIN BEDSTEADS, BRASS-MOUNTED BEDSTEADS, CARPETS, comprising:—

Chamberfield Sofa, Arm-chairs (new), Folding Card and Occasional Tables, One Upholstered Suite, Bedroom Furniture comprising Teakwood Twin Bedsteads, large and small Wardrobes, Dressing Tables, and Chairs, Washstands, etc., (tinned Teakwood), Slideboards, Dinner Waggon, Extension Dining Tables and Chairs, etc., Dinner Services, Crockery, and Glass Ware, Joking Stoves, Cutlery, etc., Bath Room Utensils, Electro-Plated Ware, Electric Reading Lamps, Teakwood Screens, Sundry blackwood Furniture, Slide Tables, Chairs, Cabinets, Pictures, Carpets, etc.

Also
Emmalied Bath, several lot Tennis Balls, 12-Bore Sporting Gun, (English make new) Oliver Typewriter, (new), etc.
One Royal Superb (English made) Bicycle 3 Speed Gear and one set of 18 Old Chinese Weapons.

Two Skin Water Rugs.
(Full Particulars from Catalogue).
Terms—Cash.

HUGHES & HUGHES,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, January 12, 1921.

(FOR ACCOUNT OF THE UNDERSIGNED),
ON
TUESDAY,

January 12, 1921, commencing at 2.30 p.m., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Voeux Road, Corner of Lee House Street,
Household Linens, etc., comprising:—

Pillow Cases, Fine quality Blankets, White Satin Quilts, Bed Valances, Damask Table Cloths, Turkish Towels, Bath Towels, Bath Sheets, Double Bed Sheets, Drawnwork Bedspreads, Table Covers, Crochet and Drawnwork Doilies, Linen Damask Serviettes.

Also
A few lots of Bellow Valises and Suit Cases.
And
Three Pairs Binoculars, etc.
(Full Particulars from Catalogue).
Terms—Cash.

HUGHES & HUGHES,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, January 12, 1921.

Convicted on a charge of having attempted to commit an indecent assault on a 14-year old girl, a Chinese who gave his age as 60 years, was this morning sentenced by Magistrate Omer to three months' imprisonment with hard labour.

NOTICES.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

FOR ENGLISH MADE SAFES.

FIRE, & THIEF RESISTING.



DEED BOXES, VALE LOCKS
CASH BOXES, & LATCHES.

AGENTS FOR:

CHUBB'S LOCKS & LOCKING BARS.

"BABY" GRAND PIANOS

JUST UNPACKED

"BROADWOOD" LONDON.

"CHICKERING" BOSTON.

The finest in the World.

THE ANDERSON MUSIC CO., LTD.

14, DES VOEUX ROAD.

FINE SELECTION OF GOODS

SUITABLE FOR PRESENTS.

Including
COTEX SETS
MANICURE SETS
COLGATES GIFT BOXES
COTY'S & HUGOBON'S PERFUMERY
HAIR BRUSHES & COMBS
PIPES & VACUUM FLASKS
Etc., Etc.
At Moderate Prices.
COLONIAL DISPENSARY,
Tel. No. 1877.
14 Queen's Road Central, Hongkong.

THE "BON TON" LTD.

87, Queen's Road, Central.

JUST ARRIVED.

An odd assortment of Ladies' Hats of the latest French styles and make, no duplicates of any style.
Also Evening Dress, excellent Overcoatings and Costume Materials and Trimmings, etc.

The universal popular BONTON Corsets.

TANSAN

received the highest award

A GOLD MEDAL

from a committee of critical judges at the
Anglo-Japanese Exhibition
which testifies to its excellency and purity.

Beware of bogus imitations. No Tansan is genuine unless the label bears the name of

J. OLIFFORD-WILKINSON.

Unrivalled as a drink. Mixes well with Wines, Spirits or Milk.

Tansan raises the spirits and tempts sanguine anticipation, even as a flagon of wine exhilarated the monks of old.

For the good old friar of orders grey
Would have waived the flagon of wine away
And coughed himself as any man can
With bubbling sparkling, cool Tansan.

Tansan can be obtained at all first class Hotels, Bars and Clubs in the Far East.

SOLE AGENTS:—

GANDY, PRICE & CO., LTD.

Tel. No. 122. 8, QUEEN'S ROAD, CENTRAL.

SHIPPING

HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMERS.

JOINT SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD. AND THE CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

HONGKONG-CANTON LINE.

Sailing:—To Canton daily at 8 a.m. (Sundays excepted) and 10 p.m. From Canton daily at 8 a.m. (Sundays excepted) and 8 p.m.

FIRST OR OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD.

HONGKONG-MACAO LINE.

SAILINGS:—To Macao—daily at 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. (Sundays at 9 a.m.) From Macao—daily at 8:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. (Sundays at 2 p.m. only)

Further information may be obtained at the Company's Office, Hotel Mansions, or from Messrs. Thos. Cook & Son, Booking Agents, Hongkong.

DODWELL & COMPANY, LTD.

STEAMSHIP SERVICES.

Regular Sailings to NEW YORK AND/OR BOSTON

Via Suez or Panama Canal at Owner's Option.

S.S. "BOLTON CASTLE" Sailing on or about January 23rd.

LLOYD TRIESTINO

FOR SHANGHAI.

S.S. "PILANA" Sailing at 10 a.m. January 15th.

S.S. "HUNGARIA" Sailing on or about January 20th.

FOR VENICE.

TAKING CARGO ON THROUGH BILLS OF LADING FOR LANT, BLACK SEA & DANUBE PORTS.

Via SINGAPORE, PENANG, and COLOMBO.

S.S. "NIPPON" Sailing on or about January 16th.

S.S. "PILANA" Sailing on or about February 6th.

S.S. "HUNGARIA" Sailing on or about March 3rd.

Passengers' Luggage can be insured at the office of the Agents.

NANYO YUSEN KAISHA, Ltd.

(SOUTH SEA MAIL S. S. CO.)

Regular Services between

JAPAN, HONGKONG & JAVA

FOR JAPAN.

S.S. "HOKUTO MARU" Sailing on or about January 20th.

S.S. "SAMARANG MARU" Sailing on or about February 7th.

FOR JAVA.

S.S. "RIJUN MARU" Sailing on or about January 22nd.

S.S. "MACASSAR MARU" Sailing on or about February 11th.

OCEAN TRANSPORT Co., Ltd.

(TAITO KAIUN KAISHA.)

Steamship Services Trans-Pacific. Also to Australia, Europe, etc.

NATAL LINE OF STEAMERS

TAKING CARGO ON THROUGH BILLS OF LADING FOR SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS with transshipment at CAIRO, in conjunction with the INDIA-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LTD. and APCAL LINE.

For freight or passage on any of the above Lines apply—

DODWELL & CO., LTD., Agents.

E. H. ING & CO.

LARGE STOCK OF SHIPBUILDING MATERIALS, viz. Steel Ship Plates, Angles and Bars. Also Shipchandlery Articles.

Telephone No. 1118. 25, Wing Woo Street, Central.

O. S. K.

OSAKA SHOSHEN KAISHA.

SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

LONDON, ANTWERP, ROTTERDAM & HAMBURG—Monthly direct service via Singapore and Port Said.

HIMALAYA MARU—Thursday, 10th February.

BUENOS AIRES—Rio de Janeiro, Santos, Durban and Cape Town via Singapore.

SEATTLE MARU—Tuesday, 8th March.

BOMBAY & COLOMBO—Regular fortnightly service via Suez.

BURMA MARU—Monday, 10th January.

RASADO MARU (Taking Passengers)—Thursday, 20th January.

SAIGON, BANGKOK & SINGAPORE—Regular Monthly service.

UNSAN MARU—Wednesday, 2nd February.

SYDNEY & MELBOURNE—Monthly service taking cargo to New Zealand and Pacific Islands.

VICTORIA, VAN COUVER, SEATTLE & TACOMA—Via Manila and Shanghai—Regular fortnightly service touching at intermediate ports in Japan and taking cargo to OVERLAND PORTS U.S. in connection with Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway.

ARIZONA MARU (Call Dairen Taking Passengers)—Friday, 14th Jan.

NEW YORK—Regular monthly service via Japan ports, San Francisco, Panama and Cuban Ports.

AMUR MARU—Saturday, 16th January.

NEW ORLEANS LINE.

HAMBURG MARU—Monday 7th February.

JAPAN PORTS—Shanghai, Moji, Kobe and Yokohama.

KEELUNG via SWATOW & AMOY—These steamers have excellent accommodation for 1st and 2nd class passengers and will arrive at and depart from the O.S.K. Wharf near the Harbour Office.

AMAKUSA MARU—Sunday, 16th January.

TAKAO via SWATOW and AMOY.

BORHU MARU—Sunday, 16th January.

For sailing dates and further particulars please apply to—Y. YASUDA, Manager, Tel. No. 74 and 745. No. 1, Queen's Building.

SHIPPING.

C. N. C.

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SAILING SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

FOR SHANGHAI, TIENTSIN, Peking, etc.

SHANGHAI & TIENTSIN—Peking—Jan. 12, at Noon.

Peking & TIENTSIN—Shanghai—Jan. 12, at 4 p.m.

Peking & TIENTSIN—Shanghai—Jan. 12, at 10 a.m.

SWATOW AND BANGKOK—Luchow—Jan. 12, at 9 a.m.

AMOY, SHANGHAI AND FUJOU—Swatow—Jan. 12, at Noon.

SHANGHAI—Swatow—Jan. 12, at Noon.

SHANGHAI LINE—PASSENGERS, MAIL and CARGO. Extensive Saloon accommodation. Electric Light and Fans in Saloon and State-rooms. Regular schedule service between Canton, Hongkong, Shanghai (three weekly) and Tientsin (weekly), taking cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports. Passengers are landed in Shanghai, avoiding the inconvenience of transshipment at Woosung.

FANGKOK LINE—Weekly service to and from Bangkok via Swatow.

For Freight or Passage apply to—BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, AGENTS.

Telephone No. 25.

Operating the following U.S. Shipping Board Steamer

For SEATTLE, TACOMA, VICTORIA, VANCOUVER.

(Calling at Shanghai and Kobe).

"EDMORE" About Jan. 24th.

For SEATTLE, TACOMA, WASHINGTON.

(Calling at Shanghai, Dairen and Japan Ports).

"EDMORE" About Feb. 7th.

"BLAIDIDGE" About Feb. 12th.

"WHELAN MONTANA" About Mar. 12th.

"CITY OF SPOKANE" About Mar. 21st.

For PORTLAND direct.

(Calling at Kobe and Yokohama).

"ABERCOSS" About Feb. 7th.

"PAWLET" About Mar. 7th.

"COAKSET" About Apr. 4th.

Through Bills of Lading issued to Overland Coms on Points.

FOR FREIGHT AND PARTICULARS APPLY TO:

THE ADMIRAL LINE,

Telephones 2477 & 2478. Fifth Floor, Hotel Mansions.

Operating the following U.S. Shipping Board Steamer

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CHINA TRADE

GREAT BRITAIN'S FITNESS.

COMMERCIAL COUNSELLOR
INTERVIEWED.

Early in July last Mr. H. H. Fox, C.M.G., F.R.C.S., H.M. Commercial Counsellor for China, visited England. From that date until the present time he has been actively engaged in giving expert advice and information to manufacturers and industrial circles generally in Great Britain concerning trade prospects in China and the most efficacious means for their development, says *Eastern Engineering*, the supplement to the *London and China Express*. Mr. Fox has visited most large manufacturing centres, such as Glasgow, Manchester, Leeds, Sheffield, Birmingham, Coventry, etc., and has also paid personal visits to many large engineering works such as those of Messrs. Vickers, Messrs. Greenwood and Bailey, Messrs. Herbert Morris, of Loughborough, Messrs. Mather and Platt, and many others. He has interviewed in the aggregate probably hundreds of good people, and given and exchanged opinions with very many of the largest manufacturing engineers in Great Britain. And whilst Mr. Fox has discussed China and China trade, he has also received consciously or subconsciously a very clear impression of the industrial conditions to-day in Britain, of her methods and manufacturing facilities and of her desire and fitness for China trade. With a view to imparting to us his impressions in these latter respects, Mr. Fox courteously granted this journal an interview.

Mr. Fox is deliberate alike in forming and in expressing an opinion, and the result of some five months' investigation on industrial conditions in Great Britain should have enabled him to entertain and to express, as he expressed to us, complete confidence in Great Britain's industrial position and development. The permanent staff had grown to 203,633 and the temporary staff had fallen to 193,972. In the latest return, issued on September 1, the temporary staff had decreased still further to 117,403, but the permanent staff totalled 250,623.

DANGERS OF DELAY IN DELIVERY.

There is, however, one feature in existing conditions which gives Mr. Fox concern. This was alluded to on several occasions, and constituted a sombre undertone to the whole of the interview. It refers to delay in delivery and the necessity for more rapid production. Happily, we are in a position to state that British manufacturers are aware of this handicap to their trade abroad. The importance Mr. Fox attaches to it and the evidence he has been able to offer manufacturers of the drawbacks to trade arising therefrom will, we believe, do much to remedy matters. There exists no real reason why production should not be more rapid. Mr. Fox is thoroughly satisfied with the equipment and methods in engineering works, the development of which during the past few years is matter for comment. The employees have the facility and ability for materially hastening production. Mr. Fox evidenced much of what is being done for their comfort and as an aid to all round efficiency. We believe that the evil of delay in delivery is now in course of being remedied, and also that commercial and industrial interest in China will be long and Great Britain's handicap in this direction steadily diminishing.

If this should prove to be the case then Mr. Fox entertains no doubt as to the country's ability to meet foreign competition in China in all branches of engineering. Development and co-operative effort he finds are particularly marked in electrical engineering. He is favourably impressed by the fact that several important groups of manufacturers concerned with this branch of engineering have combined resources, both technical and commercial, with a view to catering with the greatest efficiency for China and for foreign trade generally. Gradually but surely these powerful groups have covered the whole domain of electricity. They have aimed at being able to say that there is no conceivable electric contract that they cannot undertake and carry through with products of their own manufacture as far as they come within the realm of the electrical industry. The spirit shown in this important branch of engineering during the past few years has been broadminded, liberal, and thoroughly progressive. Its importance to China as well as to engineering interests in Great Britain is obvious.

Throughout his visit Mr. Fox has noticed a better understanding and realization of China's great potentialities as a market for machinery and equipment. Also an increased willingness to cater for her special requirements and to adapt products and methods to the needs of the China Market. He attributes this in part at least to an actual or foreshadowed falling away of the demand in other markets, thus necessitating a wider outlook and increased effort to exploit centres further afield.

POTENCY OF THE MERCHANT FIRM. Mr. Fox finds that the old established China merchant firm exerts a potent influence amongst British manufacturing engineers, and he himself has a good deal to say on the merchant's behalf. The manufacturer sees that it is a convenient and safe policy to leave his interests in China in the merchant's hands. This may, of course, rob the manufacturer of

initiative in dealing with his export trade. He may not even know to what part of the country his goods are being sent. Nevertheless, the policy of depending on the merchant firm of standing is an easy policy and safe financially, and Mr. Fox admits as much. At the same time he urges manufacturers, either individually or in groups, to supplement this policy by sending their own representatives to China to travel the country on their behalf, working in conjunction with the merchant firm. Mr. Fox is of opinion that the efficient technical and commercial representative in China able to represent manufacturers' interests is a scarce commodity. At the same time there are many well-established merchant firms transacting a large Anglo-China trade but maintaining no engineering department. It is suggested that such firms find it a sound business policy to consider the establishment of such departments. Mr. Fox believes that the growth and activity of the engineering industry in Great Britain and also the potential demand for machinery shown in China alike justify such a step. Such a development is the more likely to accrue, as several China firms are now opening branches in London, and a more general trend at the same time a closer connection is likely to exist in the future between such commercial interests and the actual manufacturers in Great Britain.

SOME CONCERNS TO CHINA TRADE. Mr. Fox attaches great importance to the concession British manufacturers have just made to omit from their contracts the clause entitling them to higher prices to meet increased costs accruing whilst such contracts are being discharged. This removes a serious handicap to British trade in China, and will do much to maintain the high prestige British manufacturers enjoy amongst the Chinese. This prestige nothing should imperil.

The willingness now of British manufacturers to receive Chinese students in their works for technical training was matter for comment and congratulation on the part of Mr. Fox. Manufacturers in Britain realise now how much America has done in assisting the training of students; also what Japan has done, and the steps towards the same and which France is taking. The results of such a policy have also been brought home to manufacturing interests in Britain who, somewhat late in the day, are following a similar course, so that students may become expert in British methods and adopt British workmanship and products on return to their native country. Students, therefore, should now find no difficulty in obtaining entrance to engineering works in Great Britain to complete their engineering training, and movements are now on foot to assist students towards this end. At the same time Mr. Fox points to the necessity of students receiving a sound education either in their own country or at one of the technical colleges in Great Britain before seeking admission to works, and, in any case, application for such admission should be made through some official department such as the Chinese Legation or the Overseas Trade Department (Board of Trade), and should not for choice be made direct to the manufacturer.

Mr. Fox does not anticipate any difficulty so far as the financing of contracts is concerned. He is of opinion that such difficulties, as they refer to trade with China, are somewhat exaggerated, so far at least as the more important engineering contracts are concerned. British manufacturers are not likely to be handicapped in this respect. Nor does Mr. Fox think that the cost of British-made machinery is a deterrent to trade with China. Here, again, of course, the engineering industry alone is referred to. Considering quality of material, design and workmanship, Mr. Fox deems that British machinery offers good value for money, and on the price question has little to fear from foreign competition. In his opinion trading with Great Britain represents for China a thoroughly sound business policy, whilst for the British manufacturer China probably offers the greatest potential markets for machinery in the world. He considers that a very long period must elapse before China can supply her own machinery requirements. That this condition will ultimately obtain, he has no doubt, and it represents a development which is wholly legitimate and creditable. In the meantime, as China begins to manufacture for herself her market for machinery becomes changed rather than narrowed.

About the middle of December, Mr. Fox leaves England on his return journey to China. It may be safely asserted that the outlook in China has been made clearer to British manufacturers by his visit; that by his visit many of the difficulties and doubts concerning Anglo-China trade have been removed or mitigated, and that the position is sounder and safer for his coming. This is much to have achieved in so brief a period, and very hearty congratulations may be tendered Mr. Fox on the assiduity of his endeavours and on their efficacy.

CHINESE CONSORTIUM AGREEMENT.

The New Chinese Financial Consortium agreement has been signed in New York by the British, French, American, Belgian, and Japanese representatives of the banking interests involved. It is of great significance, says our New York correspondent, that though there have been five loan agreements regarding China, this is the only one to make the interests of the Chinese people paramount to all other considerations, and to take such interests explicitly into account. The agreement declares that the national groups are of opinion that the interests of China can best be served by co-operative action by the various banking groups representing investment interests in their respective countries. The groups are prepared to participate on equal terms in such undertakings as may be calculated to assist the economic development of China, and will welcome the participation of Chinese capital. The admission of a Belgian banking group into the consortium has been agreed to subject to approval of the Governments of the other four signatories. Belgium will have one-ninth interest in the consortium, and the other four, two-ninths each. The pooling of interests and concessions has not been completed owing to certain technical reservations by the Japanese regarding the Shantung Railway, and the Americans regarding the Grand Canal Improvement Scheme. The agreement provides for joint diplomatic action at Peking in the event of attempts being made to introduce competition in the granting of loans to China.

RUBBER OUTPUT LIMITATION.

The proposals of the Rubber Growers' Association for a restriction of output until the end of next year are certain of adoption. London members have already notified the Association of their acceptance of the scheme to an extent well in advance of the 70 per cent. which has been fixed as the minimum proportion required. Therefore, so far as the London membership is concerned, the scheme will come into force as from November 1. The attitude of the Dutch growers is stated to be sympathetic, and it is expected that restriction will come into force on the important estates owned by the Dutch interests very shortly. Many native owners in Malaya are showing approval of the scheme, and important London and Japanese planters who are not members of any of the existing associations are supporting the project. The restriction scheme, therefore, looks like being more successful than the 1918 scheme, though, of course, it would be too much to expect the application of voluntary limitation of output to be applied to the whole of the planted area.

CUBAN FINANCIAL CRISIS.

Excessive speculation in sugar, followed by a sharp fall in its price, has produced a serious financial crisis in Cuba. On reports that loans against sugar were endangered, a "run" developed on the banks in Havana, notably the International Bank (a comparatively new concern), and the National and Spanish banks. The run assumed serious proportions, and following a suspension of payment by the International, the Government declared a moratorium until December 1.

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LONDON CHINESE.

AN ORIENTAL SCHOOL.

CHINESE AND THE ENGLISH
LANGUAGE.

There are things in Pennyfields, Limehouse, that are undreamt of in the philosophy of folk who picture London's Chinatown after the manner of the film drama or the purpler fiction. One of its surprises is a hidden school.

A recent pilgrim stumbled on it by accident at the end of a long, dark passage entered from the back of a cafe. This visitor was asking a night's excitement in an opium den. His Chinese guide took him down the passage and left him standing in astonishment—one of the congregation at a Salvation Army service.

The schoolroom was full of Chinese men and children singing hymns! Between 4 and 8 p.m. Bible is taught here on Sundays, and the three R's and the English alphabet on weekdays.

A tall, dignified head mistress presides—she is a Salvation Army adjutant. The teaching staff numbers two. The curriculum is comprehensive, including French and Spanish.

How the school is carried on was described for the *London Evening News* by Mrs. V. Forbes Kennish, of Kensington, who labours there assisting Orientals to master Western customs and languages.

The school is maintained partly by the Salvation Army and partly by the Chinese themselves, who drop contributions in a collecting box," she said.

"It was first started in September 1913, in a small room lent by a Chinese boarding-housekeeper. There were at first nine pupils—two men and seven children.

"The Chinese scholar is most eager to learn. I have known a Chinese youth master the English alphabet in an evening. The school is a bank and general inquiry bureau for the neighbourhood as well. Two things are conspicuous about the Chinese in my experience—they are devoted to cleanliness and they are born cooks."

A BUDDHIST MONASTERY. SP'NDTHRIFTS' STAFFS.

LIFE DESCRIBED.

TOTAL 388,023.

MEETING OF THE CHINA SOCIETY.

"Life in a Buddhist Monastery" was the title of an interesting lecture delivered by Dr. W. M. McGovern, under the auspices of the China Society, at the School of Oriental Studies, Finsbury Circus, E.C., on November 25. Sir E. Denison Ross, C.I.E., presided, and there was a large attendance of members of the Society and their friends.

At the outset Dr. McGovern pointed out the distinguishing characteristics of the various forms of Buddhism, the doctrines of which, as well as their practical application to the affairs of life, were widely divergent in the different parts of China and Japan. In Japan the different sets retained their distinctive character to a large extent, while in China they had more or less coalesced. In "Japan," also, they had the "Reformed" bodies, and the priests of the former have not the same restrictions as the latter. In Japan and China the "Unreformed" priests were not allowed to eat meat or marry, and were obliged to wear the distinguishing sacerdotal garments, while the Japanese of the "Reformed" body lived and dressed like ordinary citizens. In Japan they had a very intricate organisation of the various classes of temples, each cathedral having from 100 to 300 smaller temples subsidiary to it while as regards personnel they had at the head a dignitary somewhat corresponding to the Pope, with a College of Cardinals, and what might be described as a Cabinet and a House of Assembly. Buddhism was making extraordinary progress in Japan, whereas in China it was stagnant. In the latter country monks were not recruited for the most part from the higher ranks of society, while in Japan they came from a very high class, and it was a common thing for military officers to spend some time in the monasteries as novices. In the "Unreformed" monasteries education was at first devoted to a mastery of the Sacred Books and the history and doctrines of all the various sects of Buddhism, the students afterwards specialising in the particular sect to which they belonged. In the "Reformed" bodies, on the other hand, attention was paid to secular education and the curriculum included European philosophy and history. Practically all the students were obliged to be graduates of the Buddhist university, and it was customary to send students abroad to France, England, and other places for educational training. Continuing, Dr. McGovern related some very interesting personal experiences while he was a student in one of the "Unreformed" Buddhist monasteries, where vegetarianism was rigidly enforced. "To be a vegetarian in China and Japan," he declared amidst laughter, "is one of the greatest curses that can be imposed upon anyone." Their food, he said, consisted of rice, mushrooms, and seaweed, and he had often to sneak out at night to buy tinned meat and condensed milk, because he was being starved on the food they had to eat in the monastery. Strictly speaking, no food must be eaten by members of the "Unreformed" sects after midday, but in some cases that rule was now being relaxed, and tea was permitted in the afternoon. The members of the "Reformed" body could eat and drink what they liked. As regards the upkeep of the temples, the lecturer pointed out that in every temple there was a collecting-box into which the thousands of pilgrims who visited the temples daily dropped a coin of some sort. It was customary for lecturers from the monasteries to receive gifts of all kinds from appreciative members of the audience, and he had himself once been the re-

Will the members of the House of Commons follow the example of the House of Lords by calling for an immediate reduction in the staffs of Government Departments in order that buildings now erected on public spaces shall be removed and those spaces be returned to the public?

On August 1, 1914, the total staff of the Civil Service was given as 288,422; in November, 1918, the figures had grown to 420,510.

There has been a slight decrease since that date. On March 31, 1919, the total was 397,825, and on September 1, 1919, the figures, admittedly not complete, were 368,026. Of the staff in November, 1918, 176,845 were permanent and 243,965 were temporary. In the return for March, 1919, the permanent staff had grown to 203,633 and the temporary staff had fallen to 193,972. In the latest return, issued on September 1, the temporary staff had decreased still further to 117,403, but the permanent staff totalled 250,623.

EXPLORING NEW GUINEA

AUSTRALIA SCIENTISTS.

AN EXTENSIVE SURVEY PLANNED.

Six Government scientists are to be sent from Sydney by Australia to explore that portion of the great island of New Guinea formerly held by Germany and now occupied by Australia.

The expedition is to carry out an extensive survey of the newly acquired territory. It will look for oil and gold and other minerals, report on the developmental work carried on by the Germans and generally observe the value of the territory which is to come under the administration of the Commonwealth. A great portion of the unexplored territory of the earth is in New Guinea. Only the fringe of the huge island has been explored and properly mapped. Within the wild and rugged interior there is a huge black population, great rivers and towering mountains—all hidden under dense forests. Fierce tribesmen and deadly tropical diseases make it a country most difficult to explore. Much of this unknown region lies within the new Australian sphere.

Part of the work of the scientific mission will be to explore new country and to take soundings of rivers, with a view to ascertaining to what extent these will allow penetration into the interior.

The entire expense of the expedition will be borne by the Commonwealth, and the whole of the data of the scientists will become the property of the Government.

Recipient of a puppy dog. (Laughter.) In the "Unreformed" monasteries the students rose at a very early hour, and carrying lighted tapers trooped in procession into the temples, where they spent most of the day in meditation and in chanting hymns, the peculiar intonation of which Dr. McGovern illustrated by a couple of examples.

At the close of the lecture a short discussion took place. Mr. Paul H. King related, in a humorous manner, his fencing experience with a well-known Japanese swordsman; Mr. A. Dixon raised a point as to the discipline and the punishments imposed in the monasteries; Mr. A. Judd gave an account of a visit which he once made to the Nani Hongwanji, at Kyoto, where he was entertained to tiffin by the Abbot, Count Otani and Mr. A. Brown also contributed interesting reminiscences. A warm vote of thanks was passed to Dr. McGovern for his lecture.

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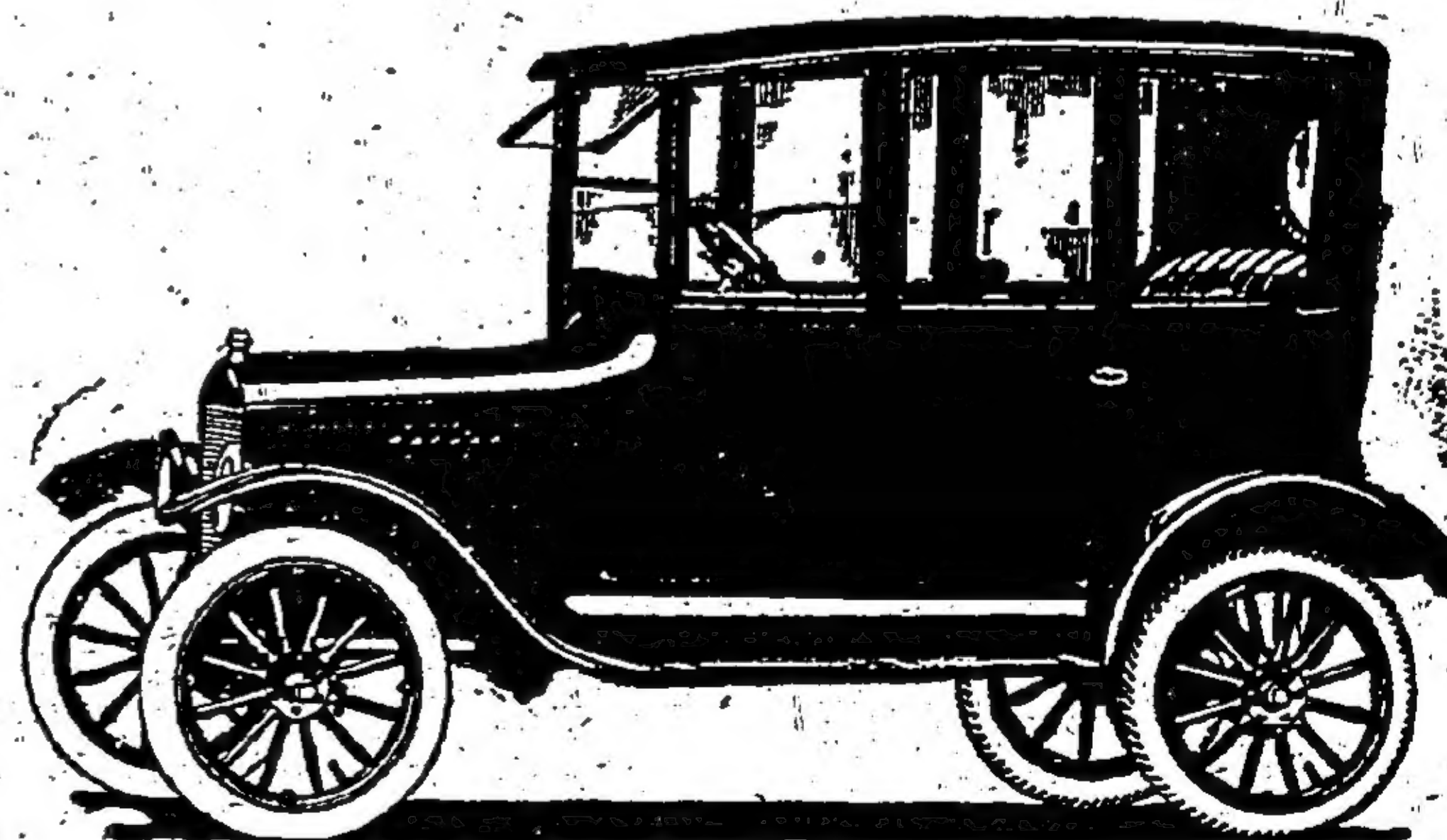
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